

From: Chris Carver
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/21/02 6:41pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

1646 Harvey Road

Fruit Heights, UT 84037

January 21, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft

US Department of Justice

950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW

Washington, DC 20530

Dear Mr. Ashcroft:

For the past three years, the Microsoft and the Department of Justice have been involved in an antitrust case of tremendous proportions. Late last year, after lengthy negotiations supervised by a court-appointed mediator, a settlement was reached. The settlement is currently under review, and Microsoft's opponents are taking advantage of this period to undermine it. I believe it will be to the disadvantage of the American public if this case is not settled soon and on just terms.

One problem I have with the states who did not agree to the settlement is that it seems like they want to make Microsoft suffer unfair consequences. The anti-competitive practices being referred to by the dissenting state AG's occurred before Microsoft had been declared a Monopoly. Microsoft's conduct would not be considered illegal if MS had not been declared a monopoly. But this was post facto. It seems

entirely unfair to expect MS to compete with other businesses under the rules governing Monopolies before they had been declared as such.

I believe the terms of the current settlement are fair and that it would be prudent to cease litigation and take the opportunity to settle now. No further action is necessary on the federal level, and it is in the best interest of the state, the economy, and the consumer to move on. Please give your support to the settlement.

Sincerely,

Chris Carver